(a) whether it is a fact that under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme every labourer will be given the wage as much as recently announced by Government for the agricultural labourer;

(b) if so, the daily wages for every skilled and unskilled labourer henceforth; and

(c) the extent to which this wage exceeds from the earlier fixed daily wages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been notified on 7.9.2005. Under the Act, Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes are to be formulated by the State Governments. The State Governments have been instructed to formulate Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes under the Act. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 provides for a legal guarantee for at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Persons working under the Scheme made under the Act shall be entitled to wages as per minimum wage rate fixed by the State Government concerned for agricultural labourers under Minimum Wages Act, 1948 unless the wages have been notified by the Central Government under Section 6(1) of the Act provided that the wage rate specified from time to time under any such notification shall not be at a rate less than sixty rupees per day. The wages of skilled labourer will be as fixed by the concerned State Governments.

Meeting of the Rural Development Secretaries for PMGSY

1633. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have convened a meeting of Rural Development Secretaries regarding slow implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under the said scheme Centre provides full Central assistance to the States for constructing and upgrading rural roads; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) A meeting to review the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the States was held under the chairmanship of Union Minister of Rural Development on 3rd December, 2005. In this meeting, representatives of all the State Governments, except Goa, participated.

(c) and (d) The programme aims at providing connectivity by way of an all weather road to the eligible unconnected habitations in the rural areas. Under Bharat Nirman goal has been set to provide connectivity to all the habitations with a population of more than 1000 in the plain areas and habitations with the population of 500 or more in hilly and tribal areas by 2009-2010. The programme also provides for upgradation of existing rural roads subject to the prescribed conditions. The details of the programme (upto September, 2005) are given below:—

Total number of eligible habitations	1.72 lakh
Total length for upgradation	3,68,000 kilometres
Total estimated amount required	Rs. 1,32,000 crore
Value of proposals clear	Rs. 24850.76 crore
Amount released	Rs. 14253.54 crore
No. of road works approved	45643
Length of road works approved	144446.61 kilometres
Expenditure incurred	Rs. 11151.84 crore
Number of road works completed	28199
Length of road works completed	77718.31 kilometres.

Steps to boost textile sector

1634. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: